

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 220

By Johnson C

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Lake Kelly, former  
Austin Peay State University basketball coach.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Lake Kelly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly was one of the most accomplished and renowned coaches in high school and collegiate basketball; and

WHEREAS, he coached with acumen and alacrity, earning the respect of his peers, colleagues, and players for his exceptional ability and expertise; and

WHEREAS, a native of Flemingsburg, Kentucky, Mr. Kelly was born October 4, 1933; and

WHEREAS, while pursuing his education, he attended Fleming County High School and graduated from Columbia Military Academy; while pursuing his college degree at Georgia Tech, he excelled in athletics by lettering in basketball; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Georgia Tech, Lake Kelly entered the coaching profession as the head basketball coach at Amelia High School in Ohio in 1959; and

WHEREAS, after coaching basketball at the high school level, Coach Kelly spent several seasons on the staffs of Morehead State University, Florida State University, and Loyola, honing his coaching skills as an assistant coach; and

WHEREAS, Coach Kelly returned briefly to the high school coaching ranks as head coach of Lexington High School, before becoming an assistant coach at Austin Peay State University (APSU) in 1970; and

WHEREAS, taking over the men's basketball head coaching position at APSU in 1971, Coach Kelly embarked on an illustrious collegiate coaching career in his first of two stints as the head coach of the Governors; and

WHEREAS, from 1971-1977, Coach Kelly guided APSU to three regular season Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) championships, two NCAA tournament appearances and two tournament victories, and was named OVC Coach of the Year in 1973; led by talented players like the high-scoring James “Fly” Williams, the Governors were a dominant force within the OVC during Coach Kelly’s tenure; and

WHEREAS, after leaving APSU for the head coaching job at Oral Roberts University, Coach Kelly returned to APSU in 1985 for his second stint as head basketball coach of the Governors, serving until 1990; his 1987 squad won the OVC tournament championship and achieved one of the greatest upsets in school history when APSU beat heavily favored Illinois in the first round of the NCAA tournament; and

WHEREAS, choosing to return to the high school ranks, Coach Kelly left collegiate basketball after the 1990 season; he coached Columbia Central High School to two consecutive Class AAA state runner-up finishes before returning to Flemingsburg to serve as the boys basketball coach at Fleming County High School until his retirement from coaching in 2003; and

WHEREAS, with his strong work ethic and dedication, Coach Kelly established himself as one of the preeminent figures in men’s basketball, and basketball purists throughout the country have proclaimed his fundamental coaching system to be a proven winner; and

WHEREAS, well respected nationally in the coaching ranks, he was a man of integrity who embodied the best of his community; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Lake Kelly always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his beloved wife, Marti Kelly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly was the proud and loving father of Lake Kelly, Jr., Brian Kelly, and Jane Tenyer; and

WHEREAS, his legacy will also be remembered by a host of family, friends, and loved ones; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Coach Lake Kelly, reflecting fondly upon his

impeccable character, illustrious coaching career, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Lake Kelly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.